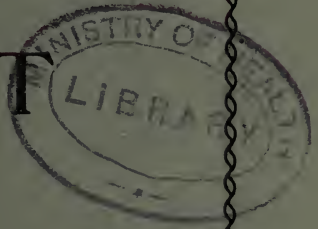


Ogmore and Garw  
Urban District Council



REPORT  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of  
Health



For the Year 1955

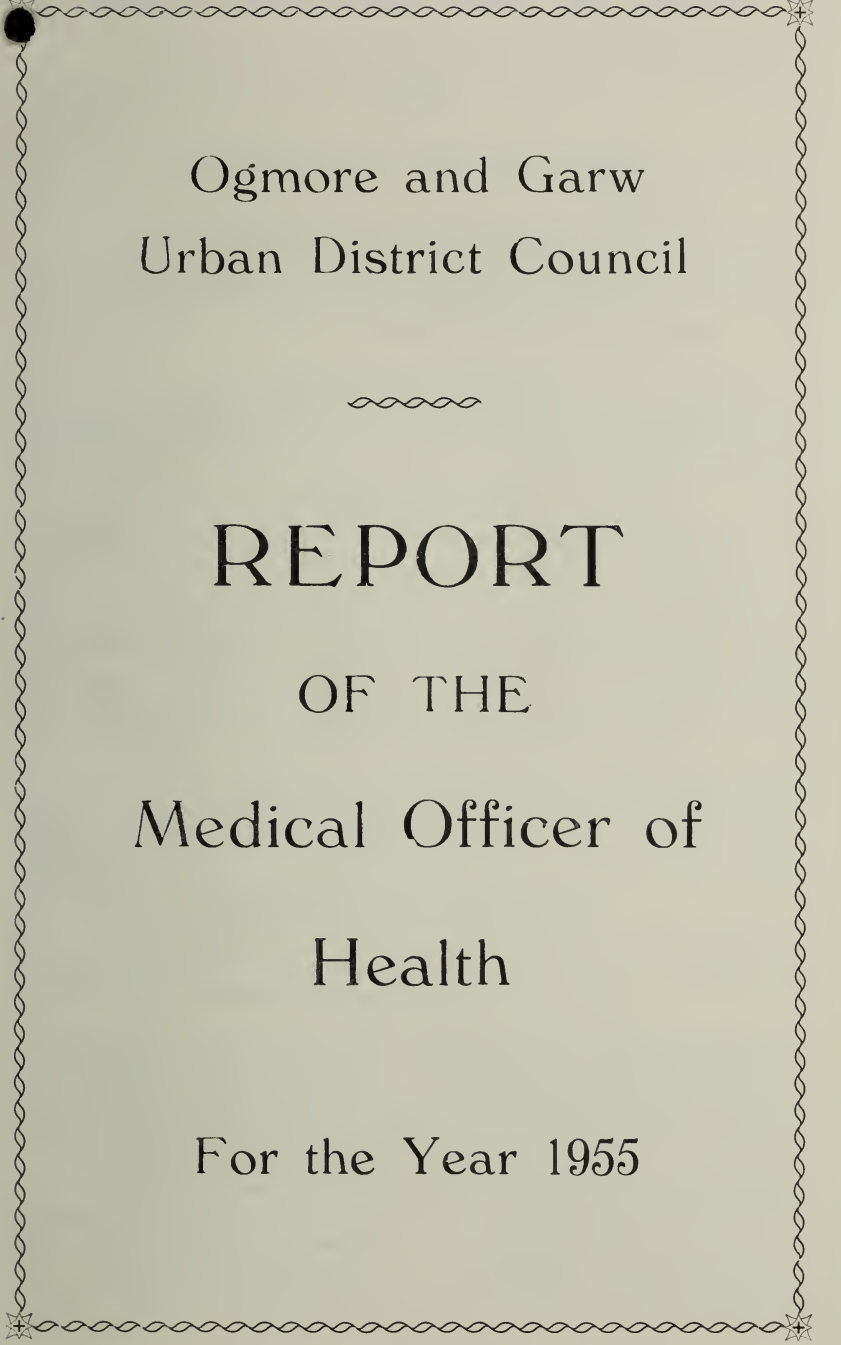


Ogmore & Garw Urban District Council.

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*With the Compliments  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health.*





Ogmore and Garw  
Urban District Council



REPORT  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of  
Health

For the Year 1955

# OGMORE AND GARW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## STAFF

### *Public Health Officers of the Authority :*

#### (a) MEDICAL

##### *Medical Officer of Health :*

B. T. JONES, L.M.S.S.A. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Edin.)

#### (b) SANITARY INSPECTORS

##### *Senior Sanitary Inspector :*

O. L. THOMAS, Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Meat Inspector's  
(resigned 1/5/55) Certificate

##### *Sanitary Inspectors :*

W. DAVIES, Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Meat Inspector's  
(resigned 1/8/55) Certificate

G. N. HOPKINS, Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Meat Inspector's  
(commenced 1/10/55) Certificate

#### (c) CLERICAL

Miss G. EVANS

#### (d) RODENT OPERATIVE

T. EVANS

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

### *Chairman :*

County Councillor W. J. DAVEY

Councillor Mrs. H. W. Thomas	Councillor D. J. Richards
Councillor Thomas Thomas	Councillor R. G. John
Councillor W. Ll. Rees	Councillor T. J. Fisher
Councillor Leo. Williams	Councillor W. Jones
Councillor T. J. Lewis	Councillor A. Palfreman
Councillor J. Lawrence	Councillor Ivor Thomas
Councillor Vincent Evans	Councillor W. J. Stephens
Councillor G. H. Rhodes	Councillor F. B. Wood
Councillor D. R. Williams	Councillor Thos. Evans, J.P.
Councillor B. J. Owen	Councillor C. Polmeer

Mr. CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the COUNCIL,

I have pleasure in presenting, once more, my Annual Report for 1955, in accordance with Circular 17/55 Wales, this being the fifty-eighth of the series.

The health of the community, on the whole, was excellent, the sole epidemic being that of a mild form of measles.

The birth rate was 14.79 and the death rate 12.10. Infant mortality was the lowest it has ever been—even below the national rate. Though such an event may happen very rarely, it is very gratifying when it does, especially in an industrial area.

There was no case of diphtheria, and notifications of scarlet fever reached the low level of twelve. There were two cases of cerebral-spinal fever and two mild cases of non-paralytic poliomyelitis. There were two cases of para-typhoid but the victims contracted this while in the south of England. There were seven cases of food poisoning and one of malaria.

Unfortunately, the department suffered from a severe shortage of staff, Mr. Thomas leaving in May and Mr. Davies in August. No appointment was made until October when we obtained the services of Mr. Hopkins. During the time that there was no sanitary inspector, the clerk to the department, Miss Evans, had a considerable amount of extra work and she carried out these extra duties well and uncomplainingly.

At the present time, there is an extensive movement of population caused by the exodus from the valleys to new housing sites at Bettws and Blackmill. In some cases, families have returned to their old haunts from Bettws—life in the “wide open spaces” not being of universal appeal.

It is a matter of extreme satisfaction to note that unemployment in the area has reached a new low level. The number on the Disabled Persons Register has also decreased.

May I thank one and all for the great interest shown in the work of the department and for their excellent attendance at meetings. The duration of the meetings is proof that the business in hand is examined thoroughly and shows that members enjoy giving their services ungrudgingly.

I am also grateful to the Surveyor and his colleagues for their assistance in drawing up the graphs and to all departments for their unfailing co-operation.

May the current year be as productive of good results as 1955.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS

On December 31st, 1955, 32 men and 78 women were registered as unemployed, making a total of 110, as compared with 63 men and 65 women, making a total of 128 on December 31st, 1954 and 74 males and 89 females, making a total of 163 on January 11th, 1954.

The number of registered disabled persons placed in employment during the twelve months ended January 31st, 1956, was 36, as compared with 45 during the twelve months ended January 31st, 1955 and 60 during the twelve months ended January 31st, 1954.

There were 132 persons disabled by pneumoconiosis and silicosis on the register of disabled persons on April 18th, 1955 compared with 156 on the register on April 20th, 1954 and 172 on April 20th, 1953. This marks a decrease of 40 persons in two years and it is to be hoped that this decrease will continue.

It is estimated that 15 from the Ogmores and Garw area are employed in Remploy, Ltd. Industrial Estate, Bridgend.

In the past year, the Cardiff Industrial Rehabilitation Unit has taken in five persons from this area for resettlement in industry. In the same period, two men and two women were accepted for training at the Government Training Centre in Cardiff.

To secure full production from the mines, many more miners are needed. For the slightly disabled there is a box factory on the borders of the area. Evanstown is fortunate in having three factories within its boundaries; two of these, namely, the Furniture and the Upholstery Factory, offer facilities for the development of a craft. The Watch-strap Factory employs, for the most part, females. Margam Steel Works appears to attract a large number of men and unfortunately a proportion of these are craftsmen which the valleys can ill afford to lose, needed as they are in the building industry.

The following is information concerning man-power in the collieries of the district.

The number of men on the books at 31/12/55 were :—

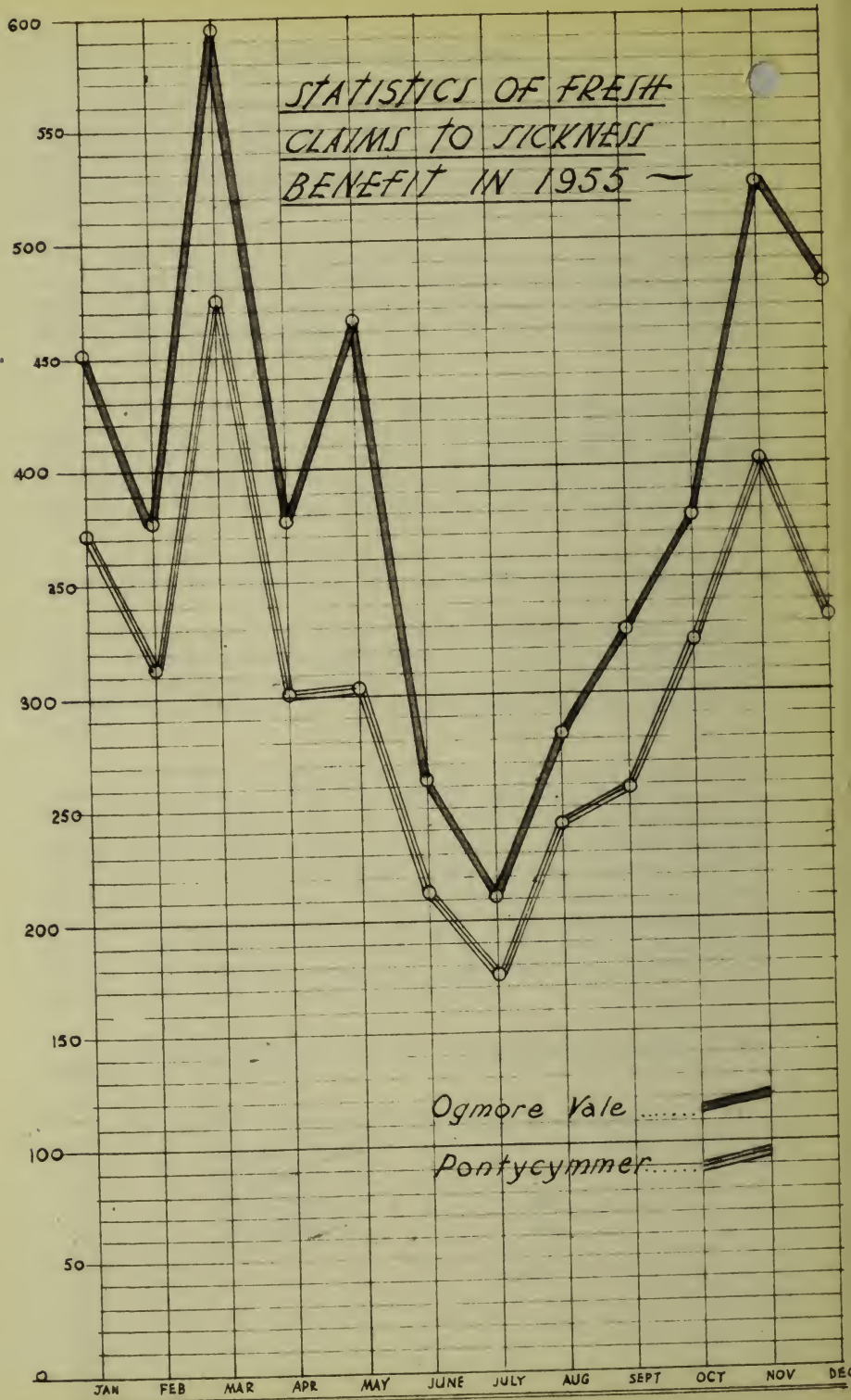
<i>Ogmores Valley</i>			
Western	...	...	783
Penllwyngwent	...	...	449
Wyndham	...	...	884
			<hr/>
			2,116





# THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INSURANCE

## STATISTICS OF FRESH CLAIMS TO SICKNESS BENEFIT IN 1955 ~



<i>Garw Valley</i>			
Garw ...	...	...	608
Glengarw ...	...	...	321
International ...	...	...	380
Ffaldau ...	...	...	775
			<hr/> 2,084

## WELFARE IN THE MINES

The Public Health Committee, throughout the year, have shown their keen interest in the welfare of the miners. Canteens have been visited and recommendations made re food handling, decoration and sanitary measures. The medical welfare section of the Coal Board is most anxious to co-operate. It may be said that, in this area, the opportunities for handling food without contamination in the form of washing facilities, refrigeration and sanitation are exceptional. Of the gastro-enteritis infections we have been investigating during the year, not one case has been traced to an infection picked up in a colliery canteen.

The question of improved sanitation on the surface of the mines has been dealt with; it is satisfying to know that arrangements are now being made for under-ground sanitary facilities in the form of Racasan Toilets. It is hoped that soon installations will be made at the following collieries :—

Ffaldau Colliery	...	3 toilets
Garw Colliery	...	2 toilets
Wyndham Colliery	...	3 toilets

It will be interesting to follow up the results of this project.

A new pithead bath with locker accommodation for 380 was opened at Penllwyngwent Colliery in June, 1955. There are now five pithead baths in the Ogmore and Garw Area.

## THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

During the year, the work of the Youth Employment Service both in advising young people in the choice of a career before leaving school and also in finding suitable work after leaving school progressed satisfactorily.

The establishment of the Careers Advice Service in the Grammar Schools has benefited the pupils of these schools, as much trouble is taken in efforts to ascertain the particular bent of the pupil before advice is given.

In the Ogmore and Garw areas, the majority of the boys were placed in mining as they are attracted by the improved conditions and the fact that long distant travelling is not necessary.

In this area, the majority of the girls travel to Bridgend where they are employed on the Trading Estate. Apart from domestic work, which is not popular, and work in the distributive trade, there is little employment within the valleys for the young female.

Youth Employment Officers attend on Monday morning between 10 a.m. and 12.15 p.m. at Ogmore Vale, and on Monday afternoon between 1.30 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Pontcymmer.

The following is the list of boys and girls who left the Secondary Modern Schools in 1955 in the Ogmore and Garw Valleys.

	Boys		Girls		Total
Blaengarw ...	...	37	...	45	82
Garw Sec. Mod. ...	...	23	...	11	34
Nantymoel ...	...	51	...	48	99

In their advisory capacity the Youth Employment Officers take especial note of the increasing demand for skilled workers in industry.

## FORESTRY

121 acres of trees were planted in the year October, 1954—September, 1955 in the Garw Valley.

185,000 trees were planted. They were mainly Scotch pine, Corsican pine, Japanese larch and Sitka spruce.

The average number of men employed at that time was 26.

There will be further planting in the Garw Valley in the future.

## STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (acres) .....	17,984
Estimated mid-year population .....	22,240
Number of inhabited houses .....	6,275
Rateable value .....	£80,272
Product of a penny rate .....	£286

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

		Total	M.	F.
Live Births :	Legitimate .....	318	160	158
	Illegitimate .....	11	7	4

Birth rate (Recorded)—14.79

Corrected by the Registrar

General's area comparability

factor—14.93

Still Births :

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)—48

Deaths :

	Total	M.	F.
	269	151	118

Death rate (Recorded)—12.10

Corrected by the Registrar General's

area comparability factor—12.23

Deaths from puerperal causes ..... Nil

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births ..... 21.28

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..... ~~21.28~~ 22.01

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..... Nil

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births ..... 21.28

Deaths from malignant neoplasm (all ages) ..... 39

Deaths from measles (all ages) ..... Nil

Deaths from whooping cough (all ages) ..... Nil

Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ..... Nil

Deaths from cerebro spinal fever (all ages) ..... 1

Birth Rate for the last 10 years for England and Wales,  
the Administrative County and Ogmore and Garw U.D.C.

1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955

England &

Wales ..... 19.1 20.5 17.9 16.7 15.8 15.5 15.3 15.5 15.2 15

Glam ..... 19.4 20.8 18.9 17.1 16.1 16.32 16.16 16.16 15.62 15.10

Ogmore  
and Garw

U.D.C. .... 19.5 20.1 20.1 18.8 15.6 15.84 17.52 16.73 13.52 14.79

Death Rate for the last 10 years for England and Wales,  
the Administrative County and Ogmore and Garw U.D.C.

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
England & Wales .....	11.5	12.0	10.8	11.7	11.6	12.5	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.7
Glam. ....	12.1	13.1	11.6	12.2	12.7	13.7	11.57	11.78	12.25	13.09
Ogmore and Garw U.D.C. ....	11.8	13.3	12.0	12.5	13.8	13.9	11.62	11.51	12.18	12.10

### CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS

11 illegitimate children were born in this area during 1955.

Two of the unmarried mothers in question were admitted before confinement to a Salvation Army Home at Northlands, Cardiff. After the birth of the child they were kept there, taught mother-craft and completely rehabilitated. In my opinion, the environment and the training which they received had a most beneficial effect on these young women. At the time of writing, they are still keeping in touch with the personnel of the home.

### INFANTILE MORTALITY

The infantile mortality rate for the year 1955 is the lowest ever recorded, 21 per thousand live births as compared with 167 per thousand live births at the beginning of the century. 21 per thousand represents seven deaths, all of which occurred when the infants were under 4 days old. The number of deaths in the neo-natal group still leaves room for improvement. With the exception of one, all were premature infants ; such premature births are in part at least due to ante-natal causes. These mishaps are a challenge to practitioners, clinics, midwives and hospitals whose maximum co-operation is essential.





# INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1955

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

TOTAL

DEATHS

CONGENITAL  
HEART LESIONS

ATELECTASIS

PREMATURITY

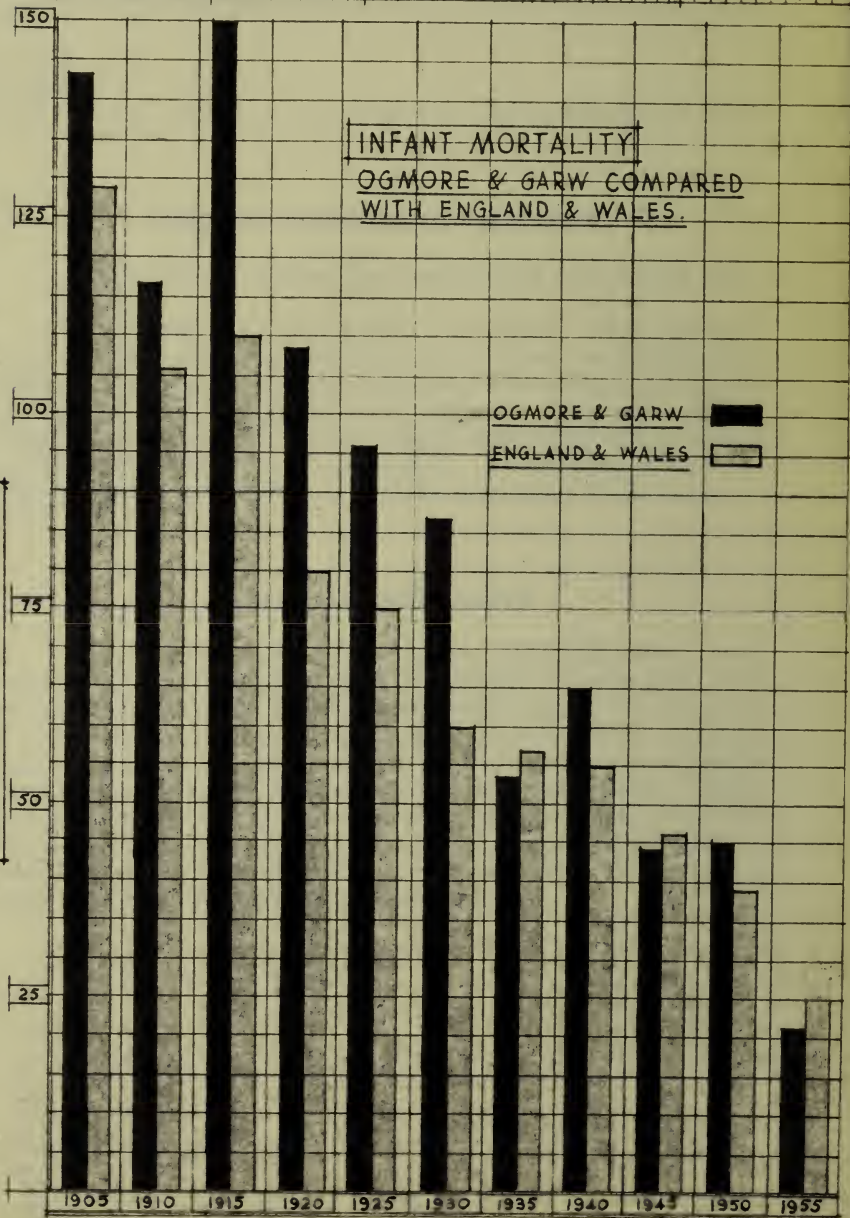
ATELECTASIS  
AND  
PREMATURITY

INFANT MORTALITY  
OGMORE & GARW COMPARED  
WITH ENGLAND & WALES.

OGMORE & GARW

ENGLAND & WALES

PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS





# INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1955

Deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under 1 year of age

	Under 1 year										Total
	1 hour	2 hours	3 hours	1-2 days	2-3 days	3-4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	
Broncho Pneumonia and Fibrocystic disease of the Pancreas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Toxaemia and Broncho Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital heart lesions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis and Prematurity	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL	1	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	7

## PREMATURITY

There were 16 infants born prematurely who lived during the year.

Of these six were born in the Ogmores Valley, seven in the Garw Valley and three in Evanstown.

The following is an analysis of the general conditions of the mothers of the 16 children who were born prematurely.

<i>Case</i>	<i>Home Conditions</i>	<i>Clinic Attendances</i>
Mrs. A. ....	Good .....	She took advantage of all facilities
Mrs. B. ....	Good .....	She took advantage of all facilities
Mrs. C. ....	Fair .....	She did not take advantage of all facilities
Mrs. D. ....	Very Good .....	Owing to poor health she could not attend all clinics
Mrs. E. ....	Fair .....	She attended the clinics well but was in poor health
Mrs. F. ....	Poor .....	She attended clinics well
Mrs. G. ....	Poor .....	She attended clinics well but was in poor health
Mrs. H. ....	Poor .....	She did not take advantage of all facilities
Mrs. I. ....	Fair .....	She attended clinics well
Mrs. J. ....	Good .....	She attended clinics well and her health was good
Mrs. K. ....	Good .....	She attended clinics well
Mrs. L. ....	Good .....	She took advantage of all facilities
Mrs. M. ....	Poor .....	She attended clinics well
Mrs. N. ....	Good .....	She attended clinics well
Mrs. O. ....	Good .....	She attended clinics well
Mrs. P. ....	Bad .....	She was in poor health and did not take advantage of all facilities

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Scarlet Fever :

The notifications of this year are the lowest for this area since records have been kept. All the cases were mild.

### Whooping Cough :

Of the 22 cases notified, not one had been immunised. This again is the lowest notification for this area since records have been kept.

**Measles :**

Last year, the notifications were the lowest on record ; this year they are amongst the highest. All the severe cases, fortunately, could be hospitalized and there were no deaths.

**Diphtheria :**

This is the fifth year during which there have been no diphtheria notifications.

**Dysentery :**

Of the seven cases notified, five were transferred from another hospital to Blackmill as they were inhabitants of this area. Hence the infection was contracted from outside. With regard to the two notifications, one from Pontycymmer and the other from Evanstown, the sources were not traced. .

**Malaria :**

The patient suffering from malaria had been abroad.

**Food Poisoning :**

Of the seven cases of food poisoning notified, one was proved bacteriologically to be due to *s. typhimurium* ; the source was believed to arise from a case in another area, the nurse who attended this case was from this area and was herself infected. Of the other six cases, bacteriological investigation of the specimens taken from the persons concerned failed to reveal any infectious agent ; similarly exhaustive investigation of the remnants of food which had been consumed by the patients did not result in the identification of any organism likely to have caused an infection.

**Paratyphoid :**

Two cases were notified during the month of August, one from Ogmores Vale and the other from Blaengarw. The patient from Ogmores Vale had returned after three weeks at Worthing and had been infected there approximately during the last few days in July. This case was that of an adult. Later, a girl of three, living in Worthing, came to a caravan at Porthcawl, then, before returning home, came to Blaengarw for a visit. She was admitted to the Isolation Hospital as she was suspected of suffering from meningitis. Later, she was diagnosed as a paratyphoid case. She lived in Worthing, a few streets away from where the first case was staying and the families dealt with the same confectioner. There were other cases in the neighbourhood. It was confirmed with a fair degree of certainty that the source of infection was in an imported egg powder used for the making of synthetic cream.

## **Poliomyelitis :**

One case from Pontycymmer was notified in early July and made a perfect recovery. At that time, two school children also had been taken ill with symptoms suggesting that they might have had a mild attack of poliomyelitis. The information came to light in the course of routine investigations made with reference to the first case in Pontycymmer.

There was one other case from the Ogmore Valley. The patient was a child of two.

Both cases were non-paralytic and both made a perfect recovery.

## **Meningococcal Infection :**

A death certificate was given on which a meningococcal infection was stated to be a contributory cause. There was also one case of cerebro spinal fever.

### **APPENDIX B (i)**

Annual return of food poisoning notifications (corrected)—

1. Food poisoning notifications (corrected) returned to Registrar General :—

1st Quarter—Nil	2nd Quarter—4
3rd Quarter—3	4th Quarter—Nil
Total—7	

2. Outbreaks due to identified agents :—

Total outbreaks—7      Total cases—7

Outbreaks due to :—

(a) Chemical Poisons ...	...	Nil
(b) Salmonella Organisms ...	...	1 typhimurium
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin) (Staphylococcus aureus)	Nil	
(d) C.C. botulinum ...	...	Nil
(e) Other bacteria ...	...	Nil

3. Outbreaks of undiscovered causes :—

Total outbreaks—6      Total cases—6

4. Single cases :—

Agent identified (Salmonella typhimurium)—1 ;  
Unknown cause—6 ;      Total—7.

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED THROUGHOUT THE WARDS DURING 1955

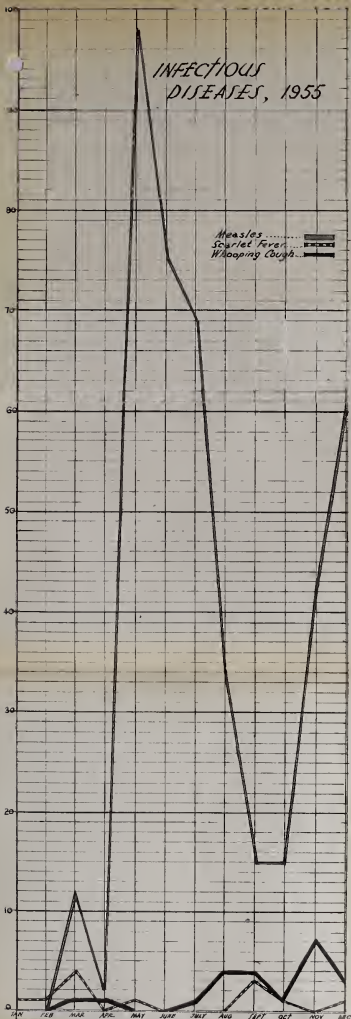
	B	P	B-P	N	T	A	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	3	—	3	5	12
Pneumonia ...	4	2	9	17	14	4	50
Whooping Cough ...	—	3	7	6	6	—	22
Measles ...	6	6	85	105	176	47	425
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	3	2	2	—	7
Dysentery ...	—	2	2	1	1	1	7
Polionmyelitis (Non Paralytic)	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Paratyphoid ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Malaria ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Enteric or Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Naecatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

# **INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1955**

<i>Diseases</i>	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	12
Measles ... ..	—	—	12	2	98	75	69	33	15	15	43	63	425
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	4	4	1	7	3	22
Pneumonia ... ..	8	9	8	8	3	1	1	—	1	2	5	4	50
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	7
Dysentery (Sonné) ... ..	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Poliomyelitis (Non Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Paratyphoid ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Enteric or Typhoid ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1955

Measles .....  
Scarlet Fever .....  
Whooping Cough .....







# INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1955

## CASES NOTIFIED

	Under 1		1-2		3-4		5-9		10-14		15-24		25 & over		Age Unknown		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	2	—	1	2	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Whooping Cough .....	3	1	1	4	1	3	2	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
Measles .....	4	7	31	37	65	69	118	93	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	425
Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2

## CASES NOTIFIED

<i>Diseases</i>	Under 5		5-14		15-44		45-64		65 & over		Age Unknown		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Pneumonia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Dysentery .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Malaria .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Encephalitis lethargica .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Enteric or Typhoid .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Food-poisoning .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paratyphoid .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Meningococcal Infection .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

## IMMUNISATION

The following are the numbers immunised during the year 1955.

### Pontycymmer :—

Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria	.....	35
Whooping Cough	.....	4
Diphtheria	.....	16
Boosting	.....	1

### Ogmore Valley :—

Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria	.....	51
Whooping Cough	.....	6
Diphtheria	.....	8
Boosting	.....	10

### Bettws :—

Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria	.....	8
Whooping Cough	.....	4

The immunisation sessions in Bettws began towards the end of the year.

## HOSPITALIZATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is the number of infectious and notifiable diseases admitted to Isolation Hospitals during the year from this area :—

### Blackmill Isolation Hospital

Pneumonia	.....	39
Scarlet Fever	.....	16
Impetigo	.....	39
Pneumonia and Pleurisy	.....	1
Septic Throats	.....	22
Salmonella Typhimurium	.....	3
Laryngeal Croup	.....	3
Sonne Dysentery	.....	7
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	.....	37
Erysipelas	.....	2
Infective Hepatitis	.....	3
Cervical Adenitis	.....	3
Primary Tuberculosis	.....	2
Measles and Pneumonia	.....	21
Measles	.....	17
Mumps and Eczema	.....	1
Paratyphoid Fever	.....	2
Whooping Cough	.....	4
Meningitis (2 for observation)	.....	3
Observation and Investigation	.....	44
Gastro Enteritis	.....	1
Pyrexia of unknown origin	.....	1
Influenza	.....	1

65 other cases not strictly infectious were also admitted

## Cefn Hirgoed

Cerebral Irritation .....	1
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis .....	1
Staphylococcal infection of the skin .....	4
Measles .....	1
Whooping Cough .....	1
Bronchitis .....	1
Septic Sore .....	1
Gastro Enteritis .....	3
Salmonella Typhimurium .....	2
Sonné Dysentery .....	4
Meningitis (not confirmed) .....	1
Infective Hepatitis .....	1

## LOCAL MEDICAL FACILITIES

At the General Hospital, Bridgend, the following clinics are held :—

Monday :	Morning :	Gynaecology, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmology.
	Afternoon :	Medical.
Tuesday :	Morning :	Neurology (fortnightly), Chiropody, Diabetic.
	Afternoon :	Surgical.
Wednesday :	Morning :	Orthopaedic, Medical, Ophthalmology.
	Afternoon :	Minor Operations.
Thursday :	Morning :	Paediatrics, Surgical, Medical.
	Afternoon :	Ear, Nose and Throat, Genito-urinary (fortnightly).
Friday :	Morning :	Medical, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmology.
	Afternoon :	Gynaecology.
Saturday :	Morning :	Surgical.

Within the area, Infant Welfare Clinics are held on the following days :—

Tuesday :	Alternate Mornings :	Evanstown and Llangeinor.
	Alternate Afternoons :	Blaengarw.
Wednesday :	Morning :	Nantymoel.
	Alternate Afternoons :	Pontycymmer & Blackmill.
Thursday :	Morning :	Ogmore Vale.
	Afternoon :	Bettws (including Immunisation).

Immunisation Clinics are held monthly on a Monday morning at Pontycymmer and on a Tuesday afternoon at Ogmore Vale.

Sun Ray Clinics are held in Ogmore Vale on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons and in Pontycymmer on Monday afternoons and Thursday afternoons each week.

Refraction Clinics are held at Ogmore Vale and Pontycymmer by appointment.

Dental Clinics are held at Ogmore Vale on Monday and Tuesday mornings ; at Pontycymmer on Thursday and Friday mornings.

Ante Natal Clinics are held at Bettws on alternate Monday afternoons ; at Ogmore Vale on alternate Friday mornings ; at Pontycymmer on alternate Friday afternoons.

## **TUBERCULOSIS**

There were seven deaths from tuberculosis in the year 1955. Of these, three died before notification and the diagnosis was the result of post mortem. These patients may not have been infectious but frequent mass radiography visits could catch such cases.

Of the remainder, one girl refused treatment and another girl did not accept continuous treatment ; another female was over 70.

There was one less notification than last year, 11 males and 19 females as compared with 13 males and 18 females.

Nine of the 27 pulmonary notifications were in an early stage and were non-infectious. They all have an excellent chance of full recovery, six were in a more advanced stage, but still with a good chance of complete recovery and still non-infectious.

As has been mentioned, three died before notification. The remaining notifications were infectious.

The facilities for institutional treatment improved very much during the year ; and, at the moment, the admission of women and children presents no problem. There is still a waiting list for men, but the time lag between notifications and admission is much shorter. One can foresee that soon there will be no waiting list.

In the realm of housing, special consideration is given by the letting committees to tuberculosis patients who have housing problems. Fortunately, the Ogmore Valley Committee were in a position to offer new houses to any patient who might benefit by a change.

The children who were given B.C.G. vaccinations were of special groups:—(a) Those who were contacts (b) Those who were open to special risks—such as nurses (c) school-leavers.

Further investigation is being carried on throughout the country, in order to ascertain whether vaccination on a larger scale is justified. So far, no notified case in this area had previously been vaccinated.

If the number of notifications on the register is compared at the beginning of the year with the number at the end, it will be noticed that there is a slight increase, this, in part, can be accounted for by the fact that the facilities for X-raying are increasing and greater use is made of such facilities. The results of frequent X-raying is that cases are diagnosed earlier and have a better chance of recovery and the risk of the spread of infection is lessened.

With regard to the tuberculosis patient, within the last few years the chances of making a complete recovery have much increased. At the present time, the problem is not so much that of effecting a cure, but, after recovery, finding the right type of work so that he may remain well. Education in the art of healthy living with special stress on food, exercise in the open air, adequate sleep and the best use of leisure is of paramount importance.

- Grade I : Good house not overcrowded
- Grade II : A good house but overcrowded
- Grade III : Poor house but not overcrowded
- Grade IV : Poor house and overcrowded
- Grade V : Bad from every point of view

Case	Type of House	Weekly Income per head	Occupation	Comments
1.	Grade II	£1. Member of a family	Miner	Mother died from tuberculosis
2.	Grade V	Sufficient	Housewife	
3.	Grade I	£2. Member of a family	Housewife	Father died from tuberculosis
4.	Grade II	£1/10/-. Member of a family	Nurse	

5.	...	Grade V	...	Sufficient	...	miner	...	Left wrist affected
6.	...	Grade III	...	Sufficient	...	Housewife	...	Both brother and sister were tuberculosis patients
7.	...	Grade V	...	Sufficient	...	Infant	...	Mother a patient at Cefn Hirgoed
8.	...	Grade III	...	£1/5/- . Member of a family	...	Scholar	...	
9.	...	Grade III	...	£5. Member of a family	...	Housewife	...	
10.	...	Moved from a bad home to a Council House	...	£4/10/- . Member of a family	...	Factory Worker	...	Daughter, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ years died of T.B. Meningitis
11.	...	Grade I	...	£1/5/- . Member of a family	...	Surface Worker	...	
12.	...	Grade V	...	Sufficient	...	Schoolboy	...	Non-pulmonary
13.	...	Grade V	...	£2. Member of a family	...	Housewife	...	Her sister has had tuberculosis
14.	...	Grade I	...	£1/10/- . Member of a family	...	Housewife	...	Husband unemployed
15.	...	Grade I	...	Sufficient	...	Housewife	...	
16.	...	Grade III	...	£3	...	Housewife	...	Father died of tuberculosis
17.	...	Grade I	...	£3	...	Billiard Marker	...	
18.	...	Grade I	...	£1/10/-	...	Scholar	...	Father is unemployed. Had already been in Kensington Hospital for 2 years
19.	...	Grade III	...	£2/10/-	...	Wood Machinest	...	
20.	...	Grade I	...	£1/5/-	...	Factory Worker	...	Picked up by Mass Radiography
21.	...	Grade IV	...	£2	...	Housewife	...	Picked up by Mass Radiography
22.	...	Grade V	...	£2	...	Housewife	...	Husband who is now deceased had tuberculosis 25 years ago
23.	...	Grade III	...	£2	...	Railway Ticket Collector	...	Was notified in 1919 but was removed from the Register
24.	...	Grade I	...	Sufficient	...	Housewife	...	
25.	...	Grade V	...	Head of family not working now	...	Miner	...	Was notified 12 months ago, recovered, returned to work, but after one month was re-notified
26.	...	Grade I	...	Head of family	...	Miner	...	Died before notification
27.	...	Grade I	...		...		...	Died before notification
28.	...	Grade I	...		...	Coal Hewer	...	Died before notification
29.	...	Grade III	...	£3/10/-	...	Housewife	...	Non-pulmonary
30.	...	Grade I	...	Not known	...	Shop Assistant	...	



# TUBERCULOSIS, 1955

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Age Periods	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 .....	1	7	2	1	—	2	—	—
25—44 .....	5	5	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—64 .....	2	2	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 and over .....	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Age Unknown .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i> .....	9	18	2	1	3	4	—	—

# TUBERCULOSIS

## Notifications and Deaths 1935—1955 in the Ogmore and Garw Area

Year	NOTIFICATIONS				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1935 .....	20	14	6	6	10	11	2	0
1936 .....	23	20	5	6	11	8	2	2
1937 .....	17	15	8	4	3	5	2	2
1938 .....	12	14	11	8	7	6	3	0
1939 .....	20	12	11	4	7	6	1	1
1940 .....	17	19	7	10	2	3	2	2
1941 .....	20	16	6	9	9	6	3	5
1942 .....	11	16	10	8	7	4	4	0
1943 .....	16	19	7	11	7	8	3	3
1944 .....	20	24	10	5	6	8	2	0
1945 .....	18	17	6	7	4	5	2	0
1946 .....	23	14	7	10	9	8	0	3
1947 .....	19	28	13	8	6	7	0	0
1948 .....	15	16	3	4	5	10	0	1
1949 .....	11	24	5	7	7	6	0	0
1950 .....	11	12	4	5	5	6	1	1
1951 .....	7	3	1	4	7	4	0	1
1952 .....	12	13	3	5	8	3	0	1
1953 .....	22	12	4	3	6	1	0	2
1954 .....	12	16	1	2	1	2	1	0
1955 .....	9	18	2	1	3	4	0	0

	Males		Females		Total
	1	2	1	2	
(a) Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at the commencement of the year .....	86	21	98	27	232
(b) Number of cases notified under the Regulations of 1930 for the first time during the year .....	5	2	18	1	26
(c) Number of cases restored to the Register .....	1				1
(d) Number of cases added to the Register and brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification .....	3				3
(e) Number of cases removed from the Register during the year ...	7	1	13		21
(f) Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year	88	22	103	28	241

1—Pulmonary ;      2—Non-Pulmonary

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY

This unit was stationed at Ogmores Vale and Nantymoel during August and September. It was not possible to have the services of the personnel and the machine for sufficient time to attempt a 100% survey as was held in Evanstown and the Garw Valley. This service was well received by the public and attendance was good. There is no doubt that the public appreciate that such facilities are offered them. As they become accustomed to such innovations, the reluctance to attend will disappear. At the present moment the majority of the public regard attendance at a general practitioner's surgery and the opportunity of having a clinical examination as one of the pleasant pastimes of the age and doubtless, the chance of having an X-ray will eventually fall into that category. Unfortunately, during mass X-ray, the whole proceedings are so swift that the examinee is not able to give an account of himself and his ailments which normally affords such pleasure when visiting a surgery.

The value of this service is much increased by the unflagging enthusiasm of the team.



# WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD—MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

## Details of Mass Radiographic Survey carried out amongst the General Population and Schoolchildren at Nantymoel

September—October, 1955

### ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS

	Grand Total	Under 15 M. F.	15—24 M. F.	25—34 M. F.	35—44 M. F.	45—59 M. F.	60 & Over M. F.	Totals M. F.
Total number examined ....	1962	140 130	122 143	120 157	201 179	257 228	168 117	1008 954
Number found to be abnormal	182 or 9.27%	— 1	2 1	5 6	38 3	71 2	50 3	166 16
Classification of abnormal cases	Nil							Nil Nil
(a) Pulmonary tuberculosis ...								
(b) Requiring further observation ....	4 or 0.20%	— —	1 —	— 2	— 1	— —	— —	— 4
(c) Other abnormalities of the chest ....	178 or 9.07%	— 1	2 —	5 4	38 2	71 2	50 3	166 12

# WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

**Details of Other Pulmonary Abnormalities found amongst the  
General Population and Schoolchildren X-rayed at Nantymoel  
September—October, 1955**

**TABLE " B "**

				T.	M.	F.
Abnormalities of Bony Thorax and Soft Tissues (Acquired)	.....	.....	.....	5	5	—
Emphysema	.....	.....	.....	15	13	2
Pulmonary Fibrosis	.....	.....	.....	7	5	2
Pneumoconiosis—Stage 1	.....	15				
Stage 2	.....	78				
Stage 3	.....	23				
P.M.F.	.....	18				
Stage not known	.....	2	.....	136	136	—
Enlarged Mediastinal and Bronchial Glands (Non Tuberculous)	.....	.....	.....	1	1	—
Thickened Pleura	.....	.....	.....	2	2	—
Abnormalities of Heart and Vessels	.....		.....	7	2	5
Healed Primary P.T.	.....	.....	.....	2	1	1
Healed Post-Primary P.T.	.....	.....	.....	3	1	1
				<u>178</u>	<u>166</u>	<u>12</u>

**WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD—MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE**

**Survey of Schoolchildren at Nantymoel—September—October, 1955**

**TABLE 1**  
**Details of Individual Schools**

School	Total Number Examined			Total Abnormal *			Referred to Chest Physician as cases requiring further investigation			Other Abnormalities of the chest		
Ogmore Grammar	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
	73	43	30	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Nantymoel Secondary Modern	189	100	89	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	262	143	119	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
STAFF	T. 11	M. 8	F. 3	T. —	M. —	F. —						

\* Details of abnormal cases are attached

# WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD—MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

## Details of Mass Radiographic Survey carried out amongst General Population at Ogmore Vale

August—September, 1955

### ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS

	Grand Total	Under 15 M. F.	15—24 M. F.	25—34 M. F.	35—44 M. F.	45—59 M. F.	60 & Over M. F.	Totals M. F.
Total number examined	1185	7 8	91 87	107 105	110 113	195 165	119 78	629 556
Number found to be abnormal	120 or 10.13%	1 1	— 2	3 —	13 2	39 5	48 6	104 16
Classification of abnormal cases :—								
(a) Pulmonary tuberculosis	Nil							Nil Nil
(b) Requiring further observation	4 or 0.34%	— 1	— 1			1 1		1 3
(c) Other abnormalities of the chest	116 or 9.79%	1 —	— 1	3 —	13 2	38 4	48 6	103 13

# WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Details of Other Pulmonary Abnormalities found amongst the  
General Population at Ogmores Vale—August—September, 1955

TABLE "B"

			T.	M.	F.
Abnormalities of Bony Thorax and Soft Tissues (Acquired)	.....	.....	3	1	2
Emphysema	.....	.....	19	16	3
Pulmonary Fibrosis	.....	.....	7	4	3
Pneumoconiosis—Stage 1	.....	10			
Stage 2	.....	36			
Stage 3	.....	14			
P.M.F.	.....	16			
Stage not known	.....	2	78	78	—
Thickened Pleura	.....	.....	1	1	—
Abnormalities of Diaphragm and Oesophagus (Congenital and Acquired)	.....	.....	2	2	—
Congenital abnormalities of Heart and Vessels			1	—	1
Acquired abnormalities of Heart and Vessels			1	—	1
Healed Post-Primary P.T.	.....	.....	4	1	3
			116	103	13

# DEATHS FROM CANCER, 1955

	malignant neoplasm Stomach		malignant neoplasm Lungs and bronchus		malignant neoplasm Breast		malignant neoplasm Uterus		Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0—19 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—29 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30—39 .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
40—49 .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3
50—59 .....	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	9
60—69 .....	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	14
70 & Over	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	6	1	12
Total	7	4	5	—	—	2	—	3	13	5	39

## DEATHS FROM CANCER

During the year 1955, there was an increase in the deaths from cancer as compared with 1954.

The following is the number of deaths from this disease during the last 5 years.

1951	...	48
1952	...	36
1953	...	42
1954	...	30
1955	...	39

Each year over half the deaths occurred in the over 60 age group.

The following is the number of deaths from cancer of the lung during the last 5 years.

1951	...	7
1952	...	7
1953	...	2
1954	...	4
1955	...	5

Of these deaths one was that of a female.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1947 and 1951

Under these Acts, powers are granted to remove forcibly, aged people in need of care and attention to hospital or to a hostel. Fortunately, no action was taken under this Act during the year. All problems which might have involved the enforcement of this Act were solved after a great deal of visiting and discussion, argument and persuasion. Every case was satisfactorily settled.

There are certain border line cases, where it is difficult to decide whether they are hospital or hostel cases from a physical point of view. These usually can be dealt with easily by the exercise of good will on both sides. A much more difficult and serious problem is presented by those mentally ill owing to senility. They are at times difficult to manage and need the exercise of restraint.



Neither hospital nor hostel has facilities for this type of case and the only solution is that he or she should be certified—a course which is unpleasant for both doctor and family. It should not be beyond the resources of the authorities to introduce a half-way house between the mental and ordinary hospitals where cases of slight mental disorder can be admitted and where a properly trained staff could look after their welfare. Thus the stigma of being certified is avoided.

Since the Local Authority have the responsibility of moving these aged people, they should have more of a voice in deciding what type of accommodation should be provided for them since the representatives know the background and characteristics of these people, which knowledge should be valuable in the selection of the ultimate destination.

## **DEPRIVED CHILDREN**

Yet again there is a decrease in the number of children admitted to the Children's Homes of the County Council for this area. In 1953, 14 children were admitted; in 1954, three and in 1955, two. One of these children was admitted as his mother was about to be confined.

Throughout the area, every effort is made to prevent the breaking up of a family by admitting children to the County Homes.

In this, the Children's Officer and the Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. plays a large part. He or she visits very often the parents of a problem family and strives to help them in the management of their affairs.

In this region, cases of actual cruelty are not met with; child neglect occurs in a few cases and that is due, as a rule, not to ill will on the part of the parent but merely to low standards both mentally and morally. In some cases the parents are not educable, but even so, by frequent visits on the part of the Maternity and Child Welfare Nurse, the Children's Officer and the Medical Officer of Health, the family is kept together. Physically, of course, the children would be far better looked after in a County Home, but the psychological effects of entering an institution and of breaking up the family unit is considered to do more harm than would be done by neglect of bodily needs—that is with the exception of extreme cases.



The experiment of putting problem families who live in sub-standard houses into new council houses has met with reasonable success. The standard of living of her neighbours shames the mother into at least attempting to keep her house and children cleaner. The efforts are not always successful, but there is some satisfaction in finding that an attempt has been made. The Letting Committee of the Council take a humane and progressive view when establishing such families—making frequent allowances for back sliding.

Four girls and one boy were discharged from the children's homes for the following reasons :—

	Boys	Girls
Attained the age of 18 years ...	—	1
Adopted ... ..	—	1
Discharged at mother's request ...	—	1
Committal Order revoked ...	—	1
Mother discharged from hospital ...	1	—

There were 15 children normally resident in the Ogmores and Garw area in the Children's Homes on December 31st, 1955.

Nine children in the Authority's care were boarded out in this area on December 31st, 1955. The Children's Officer is a frequent visitor at the office and together with the Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. does valuable work in helping to prevent evictions and disruptions of families.

## OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE

The Committees for this welfare scheme have done excellent work throughout the year. Under this Authority there are two branches, one in the Ogmores Valley and one in the Garw Valley. The one in Evanstown works in conjunction with the Llantrisant Authority.

The visiting committees of the Ogmores Valley branch have paid 2,052 visits to sick and house-bound people in the valley and 136 visits to people in hospital. In each case a small present was given, the expenses of which are defrayed by the funds. These funds are acquired by the voluntary surrender of a penny per week per person collected by the respective unions.

A grant of £500 from the King George VI Trust Foundation towards the cost of erecting an Old People's Recreational Hall has been awarded. A site is yet to be selected.

In the Garw Valley, during this year, the N.U.M. and other organisations agreed to contribute towards the funds.

The N.C.B. granted the use of surplus buildings at Pontycymmer. Provided certain conditions are fulfilled, a grant of £700 from the King George VI Memorial Foundation will be allocated for the erection of club premises.

During the year, frequent visits were made to the house-bound and lonely, also to the aged sick in hospital. A chiropody service has been inaugurated.

Throughout the area excellent work is done by the Home Help Service. Through such aid, many old people have been able to remain in their own homes when otherwise they would have to have been admitted to an institution.

The possibilities of building suitable units for the aged are still being explored.

## **HOUSING REPAIRS**

All the resources of the labour force have been utilised to the full in dealing with housing repairs.

Owing to the extreme shortage of workmen in the pressing need for repairs, contractors have had a very harrowing time. They have been forced to rush men from one spot to another before the original work is completed in order to meet the urgent demands of private landlords and of owners, who, in many cases, are spurred on by notices from the Council. This gives the impression that work is left unfinished, but in actual fact, the trouble is that there are too many jobs for too few hands. There is full employment for all available.

The Rent Repairs Act of 1954 has had no impact at all in the valleys. Requests for certificates for repairs have been few, owners feeling that the small additions to the rent which are permitted does not justify the trouble and expense incurred in undertaking big renovations.

The Council will have to make tremendous efforts to obtain desirable housing conditions, for from bad conditions in the home, spring a multitude of evils. One solution is to take over buildings of sub-standard levels and improve them by introducing all modern amenities.

There is a laudable eagerness evident among young people to own their houses. Those who are useful with their hands, purchase old property and improve it by their own efforts.

There are many border-line cases in applications which are made for improvement grants and I feel the Council, in this area, should err on the side of generosity rather than damp the applicant's enthusiasm.

The difficulties confronting the Council in this area regarding slum clearance are of a special nature. They include actual and potential subsidence. Houses are being demolished owing to subsidence and condemnation, while no re-building is allowed on the empty sites or anywhere inside the two valleys. In fact, there is no land available anywhere in the area.

### PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

The following is information with regard to the number of people who owned their own houses in 1955 as compared with the number in 1950.

<i>Parish—</i>	1950	1955
Bettws .....	62	109
Llangeinor .....	1,002	1,448
Llandyfodwg .....	655	892
Total .....	1,719	2,449

There is an increase of 730 in the last five years.

Under the 1949 Housing Act, financial aid for the purchase of dwelling houses was given in thirty-six cases. The sum allocated to each purchaser was 90% of the Surveyor's valuation or 90% of the price asked, whichever is the lower.

### HOUSES

During the year 1955, additional new houses and flats were built by the Authority at Bettws and Glynllan.

At Bettws, the houses and flats were built of pre-cast concrete with tiled roofs. The flats at Glynllan were built of brick with tiled roof. No new houses were built on this site.

## Bettws

2 bedroomed non parlour houses	.....	36
3 bedroomed non parlour houses	.....	34
4 bedroomed non parlour houses	.....	8
3 bedroomed parlour type house	.....	116
2 bedroomed flats	..... ..	80
		<hr/> 274

The above figures complete the contract for 378 houses of the Willoway type on the North Bettws site.

## Glynllan, Blackmill

3 bedroomed flats	..... ..	4
2 bedroomed flats	..... ..	8
		<hr/> 12

The above figure completes the contract for 28 flats of traditional construction at this site and apart from a small area temporarily reserved for a garage space, the site is fully devoleped.

The Ministry of Town and Country Planning have not given consent to further expansion within the area at the time of writing.

Two privately owned houses were built in the area during 1955.

## HOUSING INSPECTIONS

1.—Inspections of dwelling houses during the year :—

(a)	Total number of houses inspected for housing defects and number of inspections made	.....	277
(b)	Revists	..... ..	350
(c)	Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	..... ..	15
(d)	Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	.....	277

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice

(a)	Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .....	37
-----	--	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers :—  
Proceedings under Housing Acts :

(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	Nil
(b)	Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of notices .....	Nil
(1)	By Owners .....	Nil
(2)	By Local Authority in default of owners .....	Nil

4.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—

(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	240
(b)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied .....	
(1)	By Owners .....	240
(2)	By Local Authority in default of owners .....	Nil

5.—Demolition Orders :—

(a)	Number of houses demolished .....	Nil
(b)	Number of tenements in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	Nil
(c)	Number of houses closed but not demolished .....	15

## SUMMONSES

Thirty-six summonses were taken out, nineteen were withdrawn owing to the work having been completed before the date of hearing, in the remainder, orders were made by the court to carry out the specified work.



## **SEWAGE**

The old sewage plant at Shwt could not purify the extra sewage which was coming from the new North Bettws Housing Site. A new sewage purification plant was built adjacent to the old plant ; this discharges the pumped effluent into the river. The steps in the purification can be traced in the diagram.

Alterations were made in the sewer leading to the Shwt Sewage Disposal Works. In carrying out these works 200 yards of 9 inch pipe were laid and 170 yards of 6 inch pipes were laid.

On the North Bettws Housing Site, 1,400 yards of 6 inch soil drains were laid, 1,500 yards of 4 inch soil drains and 3,000 yds. of soil.

The rainwater drainage on this site comprised 170 yards of 6 inch pipe and 3,800 yards of 4 inch pipe.

## **CLEANSING STATION**

One Cleansing Station is maintained in the Ogmore Valley. There, cases of scabies or any other infestation can be treated.

The station at Pontycymmer has been closed, since the incidence of scabies has been considerably reduced.

## **MILK**

18 samples of milk were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and all were satisfactory to the methylene blue test. Four samples were also tested for tubercle bacilli, the results were satisfactory.

### **Milk and Dairies Act, 1950 (Artificial Cream Act)**

Regulations made under this Act make this area a designated area ; this becomes operative from December 6th, 1955. No milk can be retailed unless it is :—

- (a) Tuberculin Tested
- (b) Pasteurised
- (c) Sterilized

# SHWT SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS

## Legend.

- A = Inlet pipe from district.
- B = Measuring flume and meter house
- C = Screening and detritus chamber
- D = Settling tanks 46x12 feet each
- E = Dosing syphon chambers
- F = Percolating filters 10 feet diameter
- G = Humus tank for treated sewage
- H = Purified outlet to river.
- J = Sludge drying beds each 32x24 feet

→ Primary flow of system.

- - - Secondary circuits

••••• To Manholes.

Entrance  
Roadway  
from Shwt

Storm water  
overflow tank

Boundary fencing

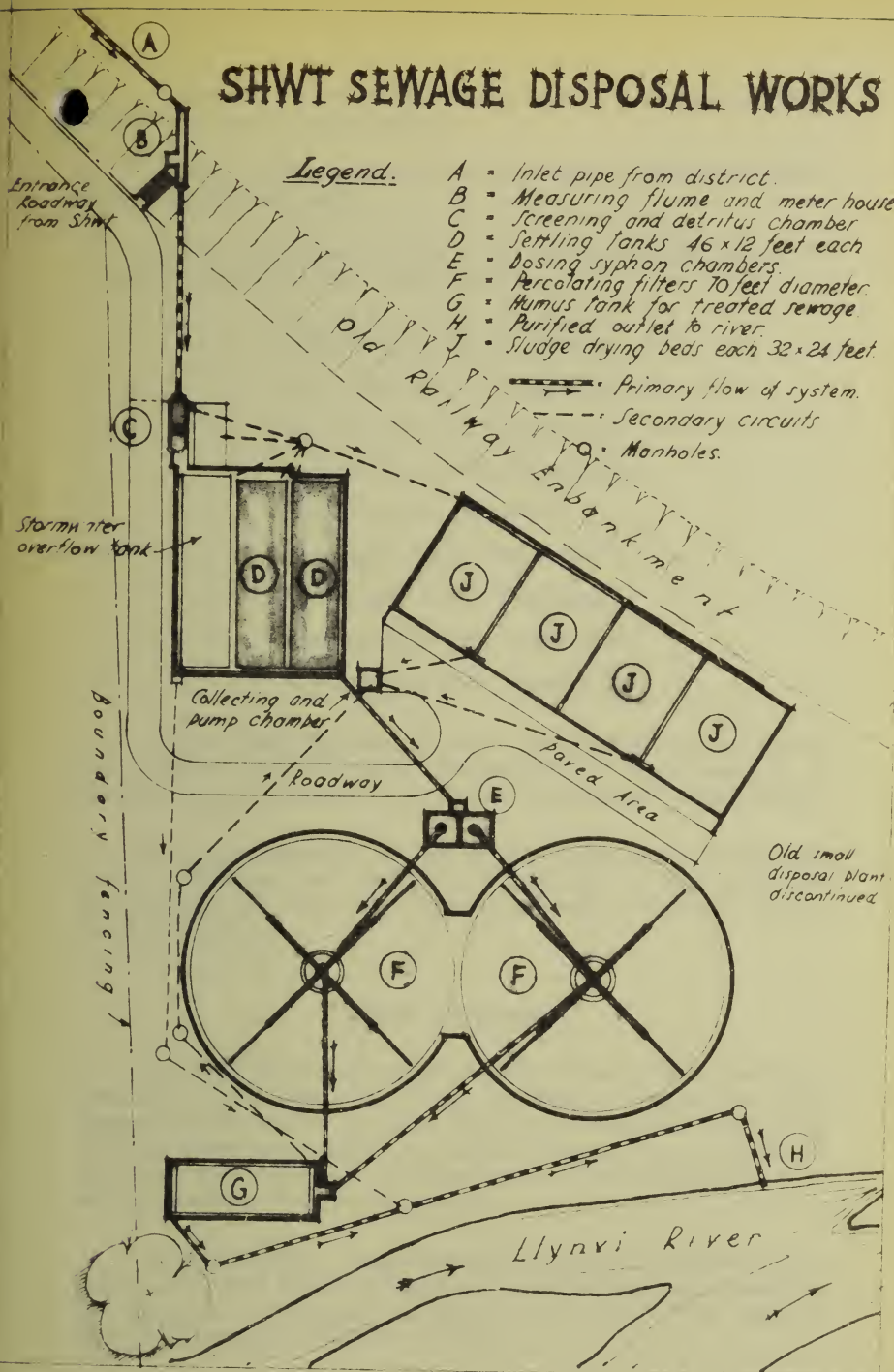
Collecting and  
pump chamber

Roadway

Paved Area

Old small  
disposal plant  
discontinued

Llynvi River





100% ALUMINUM TYPE

100% ALUMINUM TYPE

100% ALUMINUM TYPE

100% ALUMINUM TYPE

100% ALUMINUM TYPE

100% ALUMINUM TYPE

100% ALUMINUM TYPE

There have been only a few gallons of undesignated milk sold in this area for some years.

Nearly all the retailers have licences for selling tuberculin tested, pasteurised milk.

There are now nine farms in the area producing designated tuberculin tested milk. These are :—

Celfydd Evan Farm, Bettws.

Cae Abbot Farm, Llangeinor

Cynhordy Farm, Llangynwyd

Pantyscawen Farm, Llangeinor

Gadlys Farm, Blackmill

Pantgynt Farm, Blackmill

Cae Rosser Farm, Blackmill

Blaenclydwyn Farm, Blackmill

Hendre Ifan Goch, Blackmill.

A very high standard of farm buildings is required before such licences are allocated. Furthermore, a high standard of hygiene in the production of the milk is expected to be maintained.

The pasteurisation of milk at the Nantymoel Co-operative plant, Lewistown was discontinued in March of this year, but the premises are used as a depot of the milk received from the Llanharan plant.

## FOOD HYGIENE

An ever increasing interest is being taken in food handling, preparation and sale. It is very pleasing to report that shop keepers, on the whole, are most eager for information and willing to help when any source of infection has to be investigated. Regulations are helpful and education in the interpretation of such regulations is more important.

A flannelgraph, demonstrating methods of infection and means of control has been exhibited and has been well received. We hope the opportunity of giving such talks in the form of question and answer will be extended.

## **WATER**

The year 1955 was a drought year ; the rainfall was the lowest for 6 years. Except for certain temporary restrictions at Gilfach Goch and Glynogwr the supply to this area was not interrupted by the general shortage of water in the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board's area.

19 samples of water from the Board's main were taken and examined bacteriologically at the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff. Two samples taken from business premises in Pontycymmer during the month of November were unsatisfactory.

The Water Board Authorities are immediately informed when samples are unsatisfactory and they make the necessary investigation.

Samples were taken from three springs in the area, one of these samples was unsatisfactory.

Effective soda-ash treatment to prevent plumbo-solveney at the Nant-y-ci source was continued without interruption during the year.

The supply to the higher levels at the new Bettws Site has been improved during the year by the installation of a booster pump.

The Board acquired no new sources of supply.

One farm was connected to the Board's mains.

There were no extensions of mains in this area.

# RAINFALL RECORDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955

Month	Merthyr- mawr	Bridgend	Schwyll	Llan- haran	St. Athan	Pwllwy	Maesteg	Nanty- moel	Ponty- cymmer
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
January	3.19	2.98	2.75	3.99	4.52	3.62	5.02	7.05	6.44
February	3.12	2.83	2.63	2.83	2.59	2.79	3.73	4.24	4.27
March	1.48	1.29	1.69	1.85	1.26	1.54	3.94	3.99	3.98
April	3.14	2.85	3.44	3.83	2.42	3.11	5.77	6.84	6.61
May	4.38	3.75	4.51	6.16	4.83	4.93	7.53	8.96	8.90
June	6.40	4.93	6.02	7.19	5.87	6.57	9.88	11.95	11.28
July	1.28	1.49	1.20	0.64	0.21	0.82	0.97	1.89	1.37
August	0.47	0.86	0.65	1.43	0.79	0.81	1.46	2.50	2.12
September	2.64	2.71	2.43	2.92	2.13	3.25	4.21	4.94	4.83
October	3.47	2.22	2.20	2.91	1.55	2.54	4.55	5.76	5.01
November	3.23	3.12	3.215	3.90	2.23	3.89	6.00	7.48	6.85
December	7.86	6.37	6.39	7.94	4.42	7.23	10.97	14.54	13.21
Totals 1955	40.66	35.40	37.125	45.59	32.82	41.10	64.03	80.14	74.97
Totals 1954	58.95	52.64	56.76	70.07	46.05	60.73	105.42	131.63	123.59
Long Term Average	42.9		40.84					87.11	82.64
Percentage of Long Term Average (1955)	94.7		90.9					91.9	90.7

6th February, 1956

## REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

Description of Sample	....	Tap,	....	Tap	....	Abergarw
		Pantyrrawl	....			Reservoir
Probable number of coliform						
bacilli	....	....	....	0 Per 100 ml.	....	0 Per 100 ml.
Probable number of faecal						
coli	....	....	....	0 Per 100 ml.	....	0 Per 100 ml.
Remarks	....	....	....	Satisfactory	....	Satisfactory

## REPORT ON CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER

		Overnight Contact		10-mins. Contact
Number of Sample	....	A.162	....	B.163
Date of Analysis	....	January 24th	....	January 27th
Appearance in two foot tube	....	Pale Green	....	Pale Green
Colour (Burgess Scale) Units		Clear	....	Clear
		22	....	24
Reaction, pH value	....	5.9	....	6.6
Total Hardness	....	19	....	19
Poisonous Metals	....	Lead — 0.28	....	Lead — Nil
		Iron — 0.2	....	Iron — 0.1

### Remarks—

- A :           A very soft acid water containing a small amount of dissolved lead and iron.
- B :           A very soft neutral water containing a trace of iron.
- A and B : The physical characters are satisfactory.

## THE SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE AREA

The number of inspections and re-inspections made during the year was as follows :—

Visits to houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts	277
Revists .....	350
Inspections of Milk Shop Dairies .....	12
Inspections of Slaughter-houses .....	276
Inspections of Workshops .....	42
Inspections of Bakehouses .....	11
Inspections of Ice Cream Dealers .....	12
Investigations and Visits re Infectious Diseases .....	50
Premises disinfected and disinfested .....	12
Visits under Shops Act .....	126
Visits to Food Shops .....	56
Visits to Schools and Public Buildings .....	20
Investigations and inspection of Swimming Baths .....	16

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948

(a) Factories where no mechanical power is employed :—

Motor Repairs .....	3
Boot Repairs .....	6
Carpenters .....	2
General Smiths .....	1
Watchmakers .....	4
Plumbers .....	3
Dressmakers .....	2
Wireless Repairs .....	2

(b) Factories where mechanical power is employed :—

Motor Repairs .....	3
Carpenters .....	6
Boot Repairs .....	1
Electricity .....	2
Bakehouses .....	6
Bedding Factory .....	1
Furniture Upholstery Repairs .....	1
Fire Tile Factory .....	1

# **FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948**

## **Part I of the Act**

1.—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	23	42	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	21	11	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>44</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

2—Cases in which **DEFECTS** were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	2	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ....	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .....	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to Outwork) .....	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>

**Part VIII**—There is one outworker in this Area who is knitting garments for a Glasgow Firm.



# MEAT—CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

		Cattle excluding Cows & Bulls	Cows and Bulls	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	...	...	68	1,222	174	1,274
Number inspected	...	419	68	1,222	174	1,274
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—</i>						
Whole Carcasses Condemned	...	...	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	331	34	415	—	102
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	...	78.99%	50%	33.96%	—	8.08%
<i>Tuberculosis Only—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	—	1	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	42	26	—	—	64
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	10.02%	39.7%	—	—	5.02%
<i>Cysticercosis—</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	...	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES

There is only one slaughter-house operating in the area. It is situated in Fenton Place, Pontycymmer.

Two butchers in Ogmore and one in Pontycymmer whose applications for the re-opening of their slaughter-houses was granted, have not availed themselves of the permission to do so. Some of the butchers are able to kill their cattle at Pontycymmer, others at Bridgend and others obtain their meat from the Co-operative Wholesale Association and the Farmers' Fat Stock Marketing Corporation.

Improvements are scheduled to be carried out in the Pontycymmer building.

Condemned meat is collected from these, weekly and taken to a process factory at Bridgend.

The supply of fresh meat has been plentiful and of a high quality.

Much of the meat comes from the areas of West Wales, designated as free of tuberculosis.

### FOOD CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR 1955

Bovine Carcases & Offal	1	Cooked Ham	... 9 tins
Bovine Heads ...	47	Jellied Veal ...	1 tin
Bovine Livers ...	194	Steak and Vegetable	
Bovine Lites ...	74	Soup ...	2 tins
Beef ...	728 lbs.	Peeled Shrimp ...	5 tins
Sheep Lites ...	16	Peas ...	24 tins
Sheep Livers ...	408	Tuna Fish ...	5 tins
Pigs' Heads ...	46	Salmon ...	1 tin
Pigs' Lites ...	36	Nescafe Coffee ...	1 tin
Pigs' Livers ...	26	Plum Puddings ...	3
Pigs' Kidneys ...	1	Goosberries in Syrup	1 tin
Pig Carcase & Offal	1	Apricots ...	19 tins
Bacon ...	17 lbs.	Pears ...	12 tins
Cheese ...	50 lbs.	Oranges ...	8 tins
Frozen Egg ...	22 lbs.	Blackcurrants ...	2 tins
Hake ...	4 lbs.	Pineapples ...	16 tins
Geese ...	1	Peaches ...	14 tins
Turkeys ...	18	Raspberries ...	12 tins
Corned Beef ...	15 tins	Cherries ...	11 tins
Pork Luncheon Meat	32 tins	Loganberries ...	3 tins
Tomatoes ...	201 tins	Plums ...	2 tins
Beans ...	14 tins	Fruit Salad ...	5 tins
Stewed Steak ...	6 tins	Evaporated Milk ...	49 tins
Chopped Pork ...	17 tins	Cream ...	22 tins
Minced Beef Loaf	5 tins	Pigs' Hearts	14

## SAMPLES TAKEN UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Samples taken by the County Sanitary Inspectors in the Ogmore and Garw Urban District during the year ended 31st December, 1955.

Milk	...	...	76	Semolina	...	...	2
Buttered Macaroons	...	...	1	Whipping Cream	...	...	1
Vinegar	...	...	2	Vi Cocoa	...	...	1
Baking Powder	...	...	2	Cream of Tartar	...	...	1
Seidletz Powder	...	...	1	Bi Carbonate of Soda	...	...	1
Gravy Granules	...	...	1	Canned Crushed Pineapple	...	...	1
Golden Raising Powder	...	...	3	Ground Almonds	...	...	1
Gelatine	...	...	1	Tomato Sauce	...	...	2
Canned Roes	...	...	1	Butter	...	...	2
Cooking Fat	...	...	1	Sterilised Cream	...	...	2
Trifle Pack	...	...	1	Glace Cherries	...	...	1
Pudding Mixture	...	...	1	Lemonade	...	...	1
Sponge Mixture	...	...	3	Sweets	...	...	1
Ice-Cream	...	...	7	Non Brewed Condiment	...	...	1
Soda Water	...	...	1	Lemon Curd	...	...	1
British Wine	...	...	2				
				Total	...	...	123

## COLLECTION OF REFUSE

Refuse is collected by the council lorries three days a week. Unfortunately, the receptacles which are put out for the refuse collectors are usually most primitive, unhygienic and a temptation to straying sheep. The Council now have under consideration, the experiment of distributing rubbish bins to each householder in Evanstown. If covered dustbins were introduced, the sheep, finding the journey to the streets unproductive, might be encouraged to keep to their pastures.

Several meetings have taken place at which the Council have met representatives of the farmers with the hope of solving the straying sheep problem. Bins might be a contribution which the Council could make in an effort to keep the streets and gardens clear of these marauders.

## RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. The following is a summary of disinfection carried out during the year :—

Dwelling Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	180
Businesses	.....	.....	.....	.....	61
Local Authority Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	69

Type of Infestation :—

Rats—Major	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Minor	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200
Mice—Major	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Minor	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	111

## SEWERS

### Period One

- 1.—Total number of manholes in foul and connected systems—1938
- 2.—Dates of Treatment—14th February, 1955—4th March, 1955
- 3.—Bait base and poison used—Sausage Rusk and Zink Phosphide
- 4.—Number of Manholes baited — 192
- 5.—Number of Manholes showing prebait take — 26
- 6.—Number of Manholes showing complete prebait take — Nil  
(on one or both days)
- 7.—Scheme of baiting used — 1st, 3rd and 5th days
- 8.—Number of manholes test baited in conjunction with this treatment and not included in No. 4 above — 166.

### Period Two

- 1.—Total number of manholes in foul and connected systems—1938
- 2.—Dates of Treatment—29th August, 1955—7th October, 1955
- 3.—Bait base and poison used — Sausage Rusk and Arsenic
- 4.—Number of Manholes baited — 1488
- 5.—Number of Manholes showing prebait take — 292
- 6.—Number of manholes showing complete prebait take — Nil  
(on one or both days)
- 7.—Scheme of baiting used — Consecutive days
- 8.—Number of manholes test baited in conjunction with this treatment and not in No. 4 above — 957

There is a significant decrease in the rat and mouse population throughout the area.

# CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE OGMORE AND GARW AREA DURING 1955

	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
1.—Tuberculosis (Respiratory) .....	3 .....	4
2.—Tuberculosis (Other forms) .....	0 .....	0
3.—Syphilitic Diseases .....	0 .....	0
4.—Diphtheria .....	0 .....	0
5.—Whooping Cough .....	0 .....	0
6.—Meningococcal Infections .....	0 .....	1
7.—Acute Poliomyelitis .....	0 .....	0
8.—Measles .....	0 .....	0
9.—Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	0 .....	0
10.—Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	7 .....	4
11.—Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus .....	5 .....	0
12.—Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	0 .....	2
13.—Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	0 .....	3
14.—Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .....	13 .....	5
15.—Leukaemia, aleukaemia .....	0 .....	1
16.—Diabetes .....	1 .....	1
17.—Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	19 .....	17
18.—Coronary disease, angina .....	32 .....	15
19.—Hypertensions with heart disease .....	0 .....	5
20.—Other heart diseases .....	26 .....	36
21.—Other circulatory diseases .....	4 .....	3
22.—Influenza .....	0 .....	0
23.—Pneumonia .....	5 .....	4
24.—Bronchitis .....	8 .....	7
25.—Other diseases of the respiratory system .....	5 .....	1
26.—Ulcer of stomach, duodenum .....	0 .....	1
27.—Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....	0 .....	0
28.—Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	1 .....	1
29.—Hyperplasia of prostate .....	3 .....	0
30.—Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....	0 .....	0
31.—Congenital Malformation .....	2 .....	0
32.—Other defined and ill-defined causes .....	9 .....	5
33.—Motor vehicle accidents .....	1 .....	0
34.—All other accidents .....	7 .....	1
35.—Suicide .....	0 .....	1
36.—Homicide and operations of war .....	0 .....	0

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**GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1955**

[illegible]

1955

## CAUSES OF DEATH

